

ALTON URBAN DISTRICT.

COUNCIL OFFICES,
ALTON.

5th August, 1950.

To

The Chairman and Members,
ALTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Public Health Report of the Alton Urban District for the year 1949.

The Health Services of the Town, as usual, have been maintained at a very satisfactory level. All questions related to Health have received prompt and efficient attention. The Town remained very healthy throughout the year under report and the statistical figures compare most favourably with those for the Country as a whole. The incidence of Infectious Diseases has been low.

The appointment of Medical Officer of Health for the Town was held by myself throughout the year.

My most grateful thanks are due to Messrs. G.H. Webb, W.C. Berryman and C.L. Hunt for their most willing and efficient co-operation. I am also indebted to the entire Public Health Staff for the efficient manner in which they have carried out their duties.

Yours faithfully,

T.D. MURISON.

Lt. Col. I.M.S. (Retired).

L.R.C.S. & P. (Edin.), L.R.F.S. & P. (Glas),
D.P.H. (Edin.)

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
ALTON URBAN DISTRICT.

PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1949.

ALTON URBAN DISTRICT.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

AREA	4,085 Acres.
RATEABLE VALUE	£61,445.
SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE	£243.
POPULATION	8,390.
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES	2,347.

VITAL STATISTICS.

(1) BIRTHS :-

	Male.	Female.	Total.
<u>Live Births.</u>			
Legitimate	76	63	139
Illegitimate	7	6	13
			<u>152.</u>

Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	18.11
Rate per 1,000 population (England & Wales)	16.7

	Male.	Female.	Total.
<u>Still Births.</u>			
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
			<u>2.</u>

Rate per 1,000 Total Births (Live & Still)	18.34
Rate per 1,000 Total Births (Live & Still) England and Wales	.39

(2) DEATHS :-

	Male.	Female.	Total.
<u>All causes.</u>			
55	65	120	
Rate per 1,000 estimated population			14.30
Rate per 1,000 estimated (England & Wales)			11.70
<u>Maternal Mortality.</u>			NIL
<u>Infant Mortality. (Deaths under 1 Year).</u>			
Legitimate	-	-	1
Illegitimate	-	1	1
			<u>1.</u>

Deate rate of Infants under 1 year of age	6.57
" " " " " " " " " " " "	
(England & Wales)	32.00

Deaths from :-

Cancer (all ages)	23
Measles " "	Nil
Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Diarrhoea (Under 2 years)	Nil


Causes of Death :-

	Males.	Females.	Total.
1. Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fevers	-	-	-
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever	-	-	-
3. Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
4. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
5. Diphtheria	-	-	-
6. Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	2	1	3
7. " (Non-respiratory)	-	-	-
8. Syphilis	-	-	-
9. Influenza	-	-	-
10. Measles	-	-	-
11. Acute Poliomyelitis & Polio-encephalitis	-	-	-
12. Acute Infective encephalitis	-	-	-
13. Cancer (Buccal Cavity & Oesophagus)	2	2	4
14. " (Stomach)	3	1	4
15. " (Breast)	-	3	3
16. " (All other sites)	6	6	12
17. Diabetes	-	-	-
18. Intra-Cranial Vascular lesions	6	3	9
19. Heart Diseases	15	31	46
20. Other Diseases of Circulatory System	2	5	7
21. Bronchitis	4	3	7
22. Pneumonia	1	2	3
23. Other Respiratory Diseases	1	-	1
24. Ulcer (Stomach & Duodenum)	-	-	-
25. Diarrhoea (Under 2 years of age)	-	-	-
26. Appendicitis	1	-	1
27. Other Digestive Diseases	3	-	3
28. Nephritis	3	3	6
29. Puerperal & Post-abortive Sepsis	-	-	-
30. Other Maternal Causes	-	-	-
31. Premature Birth	-	1	1
32. Congenital Malformations, Birth injury & Infantile Diseases	-	-	-
33. Suicide	1	-	1
34. Road traffic accidents	1	-	1
35. Other violent causes	1	1	2
36. All other causes	3	3	6
	55	65	120

The highest mortality resulted from Heart Diseases and these were exclusively amongst the aged.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES :-

The total number of Notifications for Infectious Diseases during the year, excluding Tuberculosis, was 98. Measles, Whooping Cough and Scarlet Fever accounted for 30, 9 and 40 notifications respectively. No case of Diphtheria or Food Poisoning was notified during the year. A total of 12 cases of Tuberculosis, i.e. Pulmonary (8) and non-pulmonary (4) were notified during the year. There was a total of 70 cases of Tuberculosis both Pulmonary and non-pulmonary on the Register during the year under report.



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DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION :-

A total of 265 Immunisations were carried out during the year, i.e. 158 Primary and 107 Re-inforcing or "Booster" Injections. No case of Diphtheria was reported during the year.

WATER SUPPLY :-

The supply of water for domestic purposes to the town has been satisfactory both as to quantity and quality. Chemical and Bacteriological examinations of samples taken from the mains have all proved satisfactory. The water supplied has no plumbo-solvent action. A very large percentage of houses in the town are served with a mains supply and those houses which are still dependent on standpipes are being gradually given a mains supply as more materials become available. The scheme for the supply of water to Beech is still under consideration by the Ministry of Health.

All rivers and streams in the area are under the jurisdiction of the Thames Conservancy Board. Samples of effluent from the Sewage Disposal Works are regularly sent for analysis.

SEWERAGE :-

The Sewage Works, though heavily overloaded, produces a fair effluent. The scheme for the alteration of the Sewage Disposal Works to the alternate double filtration process is still with the Ministry of Health. Further information has been called for by the Ministry and the Consulting Engineers are dealing with the question.

PUBLIC CLEANSING :-

The collection of house refuse and salvage and the scavenging and cleaning of roads, footpaths and alleyways have been carried out as usual during the year. House refuse is now disposed of by the "controlled tip" method at Anstey Mill Lane. Every care is taken to keep the working face as small as possible and regular spraying is carried out to keep flies under control.

SHOPS AND BAKERIES :-

Enforcement of the provisions of the Food & Drugs Act 1938 was necessary in respect of four shops and the action taken by the persons on whom notices were served was satisfactory.

CAMPING SITES :-

The Council has approved of three sites for individual caravans. These are satisfactory.

SMOKE ABATEMENT :-

No action has been necessary.

VERMINOUS PREMISES :-

A total of four verminous premises were brought to notice. These were disinfected and cleansed. In one case the cause was second-hand bedding, which was destroyed at the request of the occupier.

DISINFECTIONS :-

A total of 11 disinfections were carried out during the year. Bedding was disinfected in all cases.

RESTAURANTS AND CAFES :-

Close supervision has been kept on restaurants and cafes. Formal action was necessary in four cases.

RODENT CONTROL :-

A total of 774 surveys of properties were carried out and 108 infestations were dealt with as well as the regular treatment of the Sewage Disposal Works and Pumping Station. Tests and the poison baiting of sewers were also regularly carried out.

FACTORIES :-

All factories in the area have been kept under observation. Six fire escape certificates were issued. It was necessary to issue one notice in respect of inadequate fire precautions.

SCHOOLS :-

Inspection of sanitary accommodation and water supplies of schools have been regularly carried out.

HOUSING :-

(1) Inspection of Dwelling Houses.

(i) a.	Number of houses inspected for defects	103.
b.	Number of inspections for the purpose	103.
c.	Number of inspections of Council Houses for repairs and cleanliness	974.
(ii) a.	Number of dwelling houses inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations	Nil.
b.	Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil.
(iii)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil.
(iv)	Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation	42.
(2)	Number of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	35.
(3)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 & 16 of the Housing Act 1936 :-	
	Number of dwelling houses rendered fit after service of formal notice -	
a.	By owners	Nil.
b.	By Council in default of owners	Nil.
	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :-	
a.	Proceedings under Sections 11 & 13 of the Housing Act 1936	Nil.
b.	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936.	Nil.
c.	Proceedings under Section iv of the Housing Act 1936.	Nil.

During the year 482 re-inspections of works and repairs to houses, including Council property have been made.

Visits and Inspections.

Water supply	24
Drainage	144
Piggeries	3
Tents, vans etc.	8
Factories	8
Meat shops	10
Other food shops	90
Restaurants and Cafes	23
Fried Fish shops	24
Disinfections	21
Miscellaneous	98

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD :-

(i) Milk Supply.

Cowsheds and Dairies were regularly inspected. Formal action was necessary in one case.

(ii) Ice Cream.

A total of 13 premises were registered for the sale of ice cream. Close supervision is kept over these premises. One premises was registered for the storage of ice cream for sale.

(iii) Meat and Other Food.

The Ministry of Works have carried out extensions and alterations to the slaughterhouse in Market Street. The second slaughterhouse has been de-requisitioned. Every animal slaughtered has been inspected. Full co-operation has been received both from the Ministry officials and the slaughtermen.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	652	427	807	1900	116
Number inspected	652	427	807	1900	116
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	2	5	5	2	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	242	163	2	39	21
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis	37.11	39.34	0.86	2.15	20.68
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	14	33	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	35	44	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	7.51	18.03	-	-	-

Apart from meat condemned at the slaughterhouse the following
timed food has been condemned :-

70 lbs. Corned Beef.	62 tins Fish.
50 " Corned Mutton.	43 " Meat.
79 tins Milk.	42 " Vegetables.
20 " Soup.	26 " Fruit.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

The provision of Health Services in the area remain the same as in the past. Their existence continue to be of incalculable value to the General Public. They include the services of Local Authority Officers such as Assistant County Medical Officers, Dental Surgeons, Inspectors of Food & Drugs, Health Visitors, District Nurse and Midwife.

The Local Authority has provided laboratory facilities for the chemical and bacteriological analysis of all food stuffs, milk, water and also for the examination of all clinical material. Provision has also been made by them for Child Welfare Centres, Anti-natal & Orthopaedic Clinics. Facilities exist for nursing in the home by the provision of a District Nurse and Midwife.

The Inwood Cottage Hospital and Infectious Diseases Hospital meet the requirements of the Town in the matter of the treatment of Medical and Surgical cases as well as those of an infectious nature. Provision has also been made for the care and treatment of cases of small pox, orthopaedic, puerperal sepsis and ophthalmia neonatorum as well as maternity, in institutions outside the area. Sanatoria for the reception and care of Tuberculosis exist at Chandler's Fore and Bishopstoke where cases from the area are admitted.

Two Maternity and Nursing Homes maintained by private enterprise are situated in the area. These premises are registered and regularly visited and inspected by Officers of the Local Authority. The regular inspection of "Boarded out" children is carried out by Officers of the Local Authority and the submission of necessary returns in regard to new admissions is made to the Local Authority.

An Ambulance Service is maintained for the transportation of infectious cases as well as for accidents.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 Part 1 of the Act.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes as to health.

	Number on Register.	Inspections	Number of written notices.
(1) Factories in which Section 1.2.3.4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	12	10	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	47	42	-
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	1	2	-
	60	54	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS were found.

	<u>Found.</u>	<u>Remedied.</u>
Want of cleanliness	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences		
(a) insufficient	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	1	1
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-
	1	1

